Discovery of expired drugs in a CGHS hospital in Patna

SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: (Bihar): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I must express my thanks to you for allowing me to raise the issue of a disease which is spreading in Patna, a very important city and the capital of Bihar. I would like to draw your attention and the attention of the Government towards the pitiable condition of the CGHS hospital in Patna which has become a dumping ground for the expired drugs. Recently, there is a report that one CGHS hospital in Patna on Boring Road was having expired drugs worth Rs. 15 lakhs in its store. Not only this, the medical stores in Patna are full of expired drugs, including some life-saving drugs. The Chief Drug Controller and the Assistant Drug Controller both are in the know of the fact that the hospitals there are full of expired drugs. Not only this, there are stores which do not have a proper licence. The drugs which are being sold do not have the brand names.

Sir, on the 29th of July, 1992, the Assistant Drug Controller discovered that expired drugs including anti-TB drugs, life-saving drugs, analgesics, anti-amoebic drugs, savlon and boroglycerine and venaspin tablets were being used in the hospitals as well as in the CGHS dispensaries. The value of these drugs was about Rs. 10 lakhs. I am surprised to note that the Government of Bihar as well as the Government of India are turning a deaf ear to these problems in Bihar. The life of the people is just left at the mercy of God.

There is a great resentment among the people who are very much scared to buy medicines from the medical stores of Patna, especially from the CGHS. Not only this, the faith of the people in the Nalanda shaken on the ground that the T.B. Centre and the Operation Dhanwantri also noticed that expired drugs worth lakhs of rupees are being used for treatment. The Drug Controller has also seized expired drugs worth Rs. 12 lakhs each from Patna T.B. Centre and Nalanda Medical College Hospital.

Apart from this, sub-standard drugs are being dumped in other hospitals, in the stores and in the sub-divisional and block hospitals. Poor and illiterate people are not able to read the expiry date. They buy drugs from the shops as well as they get these drugs from the hospitals which are sub-standard and expired medicines. This is causing a lot of problem to the poor people.

The problem of expired and sub-standard drugs and the problem of non-availability of essential drugs to the common man have been raised in this House on different occasions, and through this special mention, I would like to draw the attention of the Government and the Ministry of Health to this problem which should be looked into on a war footing. Otherwise, the people are dying with diseases because essential drugs are not available and only expired drugs are being sold. I hope the Government will look into this problem on priority basis.

Res Inclusion of Nepali language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.

SHRI RATNA BAHADUR RAI (West Bengal): Sir, today official Bill for inclusion of Nepali, Manipuri and Konkani languages in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution has been introduced and passed unanimously by both Houses of Parliament. Sir, with your kind permission, I want to say a few words in Nepali to express my gratitude.

आजभन्दा 36 वर्ष अघि यही राज्य सभामा नैपाली भाषालाई संविधान को आठौं अनुसूचीमा अन्तर्भुक्त गर्नपदे भन्न माग उठेको थियो । आज 36 वर्षपछि यो मार्ग पूरा भइरहेछ। म यस देश एक करोड नेपाली भाषाभाषी हरुको पक्षमा हाम्रो यो संघर्षमा साथ दिन समस्त राजनैतिक

पार्टी, संस्था र व्यक्तिहदपति, यस सदन का इवं पक्षदा माननीय सदस्यहस लगायत आंतिरिक आभार व्यक्त गने चाहन्छु ।

6.00 P.M.

Sir, I find no words to express my gratitude, on behalf of the millions of Nepali-speaking people of the country,...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH): Mr. Ratna Bahadur Rai, just one minute. After the passage of the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, today, for the inclusion of Nepali and the other two languages in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution, do you think...

एक सम्मानित सदस्य : यह तो सिर्फ आभार व्यक्त कर रहे हैं, यह डिमांड नहीं कर रहे हैं ।

श्री एस० एस० अहलुवालिया (बिहार) : वह बोलें नैपाली, हम बिना इटरप्रिटेशन के समझ लेगें, नेपाली । आज ही पास किया है हमने ।

SHRI RATNA BAHADUR RAI: I find no words to express my gratitude, on behalf of the millions of Nepali-speaking people of the country, to all, including hon. Members of this august House, from both sides.

Sir, this House has had the privilege of hearing the demand voiced, for the inclusion of Nepali language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution, in April, 1956, for the first time. Now, after 36 years of consistent struggle, and with the support and blessings of all right-thinking people of this country, we have achieved our long-cherished objective. No single political party, organisation, or, individual, can claim credit for this. It is absolutely a collective achievement.

I am overwhelmed by the trust and confidence bestowed on us. This historic event will go a long way in cementing the process of integrity of the nation, in bringing the Nepali-speaking people into the main-stream of national life, by giving them an ethnic identity.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह): मौलाना ओबैदुल्ला खान आजमी, एक सेकेंड रुक जाइए । सदन से मैं राय लेना चाहता हूं । छः बजे हाफ-एन-आवर डिस्कसन शुरू होना था, एक बिल भी इटरोड्यूज होना है और एक स्टेटमट भी है । तो आपकी क्या राय है ? पहले मैं स्पेशल मेंशन खत्म कर लूं ?

श्री एस० एस० अहलूवालिया : अब, दो-तीन ही तो बचे है ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह) दो-तीन बच रहे हैं तो पहले इनको खत्म करके तब दूसरी चीज लें । कृपया स्पेशल मेंशन में अपनी दो-दो, तीन-तीन मिनट में बात कहलें ।

Now, Mr. Jacob has an announcement to make.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): Sir, since the House is taking up all these items, we have arranged dinner for the Members, the staff..

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH): The Secretary and others.

SHRI M. M. JACOB: ...and the Press also.

SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: The Parliamentary Affairs Minister has done a good job.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH): We continue with the Special Mentions. Maulana Obaidullah Khan Azmi.